

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] According to its major aspects and broadly stated, the present invention ~~[[is]]~~ relates to a method and apparatus for controlling an optical reader to reduce the reader's parameter determination delay. According to the invention, in one embodiment an image sensor is adapted to clock out image data from an image sensor according to two modes of operation, a "low resolution" clock out mode of operation and a "normal resolution" clock out mode of operation.

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] In a low resolution mode, some pixels of the reader's image sensor pixel array ~~[[are]]~~ can be clocked out at a normal clock out speed sufficient to develop electrical signals that accurately represent the intensity of light incident on the pixel array, while other pixels of the array are either not clocked out or are clocked out at a higher clock out rate which is insufficient to allow development of electrical signals that accurately represent the intensity of light at the respective pixels but which nevertheless, result in an increase in the overall frame clock out rate of the frame of image data. In a normal resolution mode of operation the image sensor ~~[[is]]~~ can be caused to clock out electrical signals corresponding to each pixel of the array at a constant "normal mode" speed which is a speed sufficient to ensure that the electrical signal corresponding to each pixel accurately represents the intensity of light incident on the pixel.

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] An optical reader according to the invention[[.]] in one embodiment operates an image sensor in a low resolution mode of operation in order to clock out and capture a parameter-determining frame of image data at high speed, reads pixel data from the parameter determination frame to determine an operation parameter based on actual illumination conditions, then utilizes the operation parameter in operating an image sensor according to high resolution mode in the clocking out of a succeeding frame of image data that is captured and subjected to comprehensive image data processing which may include image data searching, decoding, and/or recognition processing. Clocking out some of the pixels of an array at high speed during execution of the low resolution mode significantly decreases the reader's parameter determination delay.